REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

By the present preliminary amendment, a new Abstract believed to be in more proper format under United States practice is submitted herein.

Further, claim 3 is amended to no longer recite a multiple dependency, and subject matter of the canceled multiple dependency is now set forth in new dependent claim 4.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{Customer Number} \\ 22850 \end{array}$

Tel: (703) 413-3000 Fax: (703) 413 -2220 (OSMMN 06/04)

GJM/SNS/law I:\atty\SNS\255492US-pr.doc Gregory J. Maier Attorney of Record Registration No. 25,599

Surinder Sachar Registration No. 34,423